

April 25, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The MiLW Blog: Schneider to leave court for AG's office

"Matthew Schneider is leaving the Michigan Supreme Court for the Attorney General's Office both proudly and hesitantly: proud that much-needed judicial reforms are in place, but hesitant because electronic filing is not yet the norm in all Michigan courts."

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Prosecutor error could lighten sentence for arsonist who injured 7 Detroit firefighters

"An arsonist who got a 15-year prison sentence for a 2010 blaze that injured six Detroit firefighters and paralyzed a seventh could get his sentence cut in half because of an error by prosecutors, a federal appeals court ruled [Wednesday]."

Full story

Also see:

Associated Press: Man charged with Detroit building arson fire that hurt 7 firefighters will remain in jail

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Macomb's damaged county building could be closed 2 years for repairs

"... The communication system, which includes information technology, the Internet and telephones — the backbone of many services including Macomb County Circuit Court — is expected to be fully operational by the end of the week , said Sandy Jurek, the county's chief information officer."

Full story

Also see:

The Macomb Daily: Old County Building to stay closed for two years

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press.

Detroit Free Press: State's drunken-driving limit will stay at 0.08

"The state's blood alcohol content, used to determine if a driver is drunk, will remain at 0.08 after the state Senate unanimously approved the bill. If the Legislature didn't act, the level would have reverted back to 0.10 on Oct 1. The bill now goes to Gov. Rick Snyder for his signature."

Full story

The Cadillac News: Wexford County Courthouse to observe 100 years this summer

"With its towering stone columns and Bedford limestone trim, the Wexford County Courthouse has stood for 100 years as the home of the county seat. Built in 1913, the building's history will be celebrated this summer with a centennial open house in July. The event, which is still in the planning stages, is set for July 27."

Full story

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: County gears up for courthouse centennial

Full story

The Hillsdale Daily News: Courthouse security measure voted down

"To prove a point about courthouse security, Hillsdale resident Ted Jansen walked into Tuesday's Hillsdale County Commissioners meeting with a bag containing a toy squirt gun, a razor blade and a can of ether — all items which could be used as weapons.... Jansen regularly attends the commissioners meetings, and has been pushing for more security at the courthouse."

Full story

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Push for more courthouse security fails

Full story

Kalamazoo Gazette: Protective services workers can't be sued in Calista Springer case, U.S. Court of Appeals affirms

"The U.S. Court of Appeals has affirmed a ruling that Child Protective Services workers cannot be sued in the death of Calista Springer, a Centreville teenager who died in a 2008 fire, after being chained to her bed."

Full story

The MiLW Blog: New Lapeer County prosecutor starts May 6

"Metamora criminal law attorney Timothy M. Turkelson will take over as prosecutor for Lapeer County starting May 6. He takes over for Byron Konschuh, who will be retiring Judge Michael Higgins' replacement at 40th Circuit Court."

Full story

The MiLW Blog: Drunken-driving charge maintained against Macomb County judge's girlfriend

"The girlfriend of Macomb County Judge Richard Caretti has lost her motion to toss out some or all of the evidence against her regarding the allegation she drove intoxicated with Caretti's two minor children in her vehicle in January."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Small claims workshop offered by LAD, May 9

"Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc. (LAD) will conduct a free workshop for residents of Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland counties on how to represent themselves in small claims court and collect money judgments on Thursday, May 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Brandon Township Public Library, 304 South St. in Ortonville."

[*Full story*](#)

The Oakland Press: Waterford couple named foster parents of the year

"Susan and Richard Kline, of Waterford Township, have been named Oakland County foster parents of the year. The couple, who have taken in nine foster children and adopted three children, were presented with the Honorable Joan E. Young Award at a Circle of Light event at CARE House. Young, a long-time family court judge, made the presentation."

[*Full story*](#)

SBM Blog: Criminal Case Puts Michigan in U.S. Supreme Court Spotlight -- Yet Again

"SCOTUSBlog's Lyle Denniston says that if you missed today's U.S. Supreme Court oral argument in the Michigan murder case *Metrish v. Lancaster* you missed a doozy. Actually, what he said was you missed 'a fascinating — and far from conclusive — seminar on who makes criminal law: courts that rule, legislatures that write laws, lawyers who try to assert defenses, prosecutors who don't object to such defenses, or a force that might be called 'The Great Mentioner'?' "

[Full story](#)

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: 'Shirtless Judge' Wade McCree a no-show at judicial tenure hearing

"If Wayne County Judge Wade McCree wanted attention by sending a shirtless photo of himself, he's getting lots of it. The photo has pulled the lid off of a scandal that could end up kicking McCree off the bench and strip him of his law license. The judge was a no-show at his own judicial tenure committee hearing Thursday."

[Full story](#)

WKAR News/East Lansing: Dispute over Ingham circuit court recordkeeping suggests changes ahead (Update-15:26 minute podcast)

"A minor turf war over public records is taking shape in Ingham County. While the dispute is being downplayed by its two participants---Clerk Barb Byrum and Chief Circuit Court Judge Janelle Lawless---some observers suggest it's symptomatic of a larger, ongoing problem: poor public access to documents."

[Full story](#)